



1907

# MINUTES

Of The

Fifteenth Annual Meeting

Of

The COUNCIL of

PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS IN KOREA

And The

First Annual Meeting

Of

The PRESBYTERY of

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN KOREA



PYENG YANG

September 13-19

# OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

1907-08.

Rev. S. A. MOFFETT, D.D. ....Moderator.  
" W. D. REYNOLDS .....Clerk and Treasurer.  
" E. H. MILLER .....Statistical Clerk.

## Membership.

All Presbyterian Male Missionaries in Korea.

### THE SUCCESSION OF MOORATORS.

1893-94 .....	Rev. W. D. REYNOLDS.
1894-95 .....	" W. M. BAIRD.
1895-96 .....	" W. M. JUNKIN.
1896-97 .....	" GRAHAM LEE.
1897-98 .....	" L. B. TATE.
1898-99 .....	" W. R. FOOTE.
1899-00 .....	" H. G. UNDERWOOD, D.D.
1900-01 .....	" C. C. OWEN, M.D.
1901-02 .....	" W. L. SWALLEN.
1902-03 .....	" W. D. REYNOLDS.
1903-04 .....	" R. GRIERSON, M.E.
1904-05 .....	" G. ENGEL.
1905-06 .....	" S. A. MOFFETT, D.D.
1906-07 .....	" EUGENE BELL.
1907-08 .....	" S. A. MOFFETT, D.D.

### THE SUCCESSION OF CLERKS.

#### STATED CLERKS. -

1893-94 .....	Rev. S. F. MOORE.
1894-95 .....	" W. M. JUNKIN.
1895-96 .....	" D. L. GIFFORD.
1896-97 .....	" N. C. WHITTEMORE.
1897-98 .....	" A. D. DREW, M.D.
1898-99 .....	Rev. D. L. GIFFORD.
1899-00 .....	" EUGENE BELL.
1900-01 .....	" R. GRIERSON, M.D.

#### PERMANENT CLERKS.

1901-04 .....	Rev. W. R. FOOTE.
1904-07 .....	" C. F. BERNHEISEL.
1907 .....	" W. D. REYNOLDS.

#### STATISTICAL CLERKS.

1902-03 .....	Rev. N. C. WHITTEMORE.
1903 .....	" E. H. MILLER.

## COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL.

ARRANGEMENTS	{	The CLERK, ex-officio Chairman. Rev. E. H. MILLER, retiring 1908. " W. N. BLAIR, " 1909. " G. S. McCUNE, " 1910.
AUDITING	{	Rev. A. M. EARLE (chm.) " A. A. PIETERS. " C. A. CLARK.
GALE DICTIONARY	{	Rev. A. A. PIETERS (chm.) " E. H. MILLER (Treas.) " J. S. GALE, D.D.
HYMN BOOK	{	Rev. F. S. MILLER (chm.) " G. ENGEL. " W. D. REYNOLDS. " W. L. SWALLEN. " R. GRIERSON, M.D. Mrs. W. M. BAIRD (Associate.)
MISSIONS TO JAPANESE AND CHINESE IN KOREA	{	Rev. N. C. WHITTEMORE (chm.) retiring 1908. " W. M. JUNKIN, " 1908. " J. F. PRESTON. " 1909. " J. E. ADAMS, " 1909. " G. LEE. " 1910. " A. F. ROBB, " 1910.
NOMINATING	{	Rev. E. BELL (chm.) " N. C. WHITTEMORE. " A. F. ROBB.
RULES AND BY-LAWS	{	Rev. W. B. HUNT (chm.) " J. E. ADAMS. " W. B. HARRISON. " W. M. BAIRD, Ph.D. " R. GRIERSON, M.D.
THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION	{	Rev. W. M. BAIRD, retiring 1908. " A. F. ROBB, " 1908. " W. M. JUNKIN, " 1909. " N. C. WHITTEMORE, " 1909. " S. A. MOFFETT, D.D. (chm.) " 1910. " W. D. REYNOLDS, " 1910.

## HISTORICAL NOTE.

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The American Presbyterian Mission, North, entered Korea in September, 1884; the Australian Presbyterian Mission in September, 1889; the American Presbyterian Mission, South, in November, 1892; and the Canadian Presbyterian Mission in September, 1898.

The first attempt to form a Council of Missions was made in November, 1889, when the "United Council of the Missions of the American (North) and Victorian (Australian) churches" was organized with Dr. Heron Chairman and Mr. Davies Secretary, and Revs. Underwood, Gifford, Moffett and Dr. Allen as charter members. After holding three or four monthly meetings, the "United Council" was discontinued in the spring of 1890, owing to the death of Rev. J. H. Davies, the sole representative of the Victorian Presbyterian Church then on the field.

The first meeting of the present "Council of Missionaries holding the Presbyterian Form of Government" was held January 28, 1893, when "according to previous appointment, Rev. Messrs. Reynolds, Junkin and Tate of the Presbyterian Church, South, C. Johnson, independent, Rev. Messrs. Baird, Gifford, Moffett, Lee, Swallen, Miller (F.S.), Moore, and Dr. Vinton of the Presbyterian Church, North, met at the home of Dr. Vinton to organize a Presbyterian Council." The object of this Council was stated to be "the uniform organization in Korea of but one native church holding the reformed faith and the Presbyterian form of government." It was to exercise advisory powers in relation to the various Missions composing the Council, and controlling ecclesiastical powers in relation to the native church until the organization of the latter in accordance with Presbyterian usage. Ecclesiastical affairs in the various Provinces were administered by "Committees of Council," reporting at each annual meeting.

# Minutes of The Fifteenth Annual Meeting.

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ACADEMY CHAPEL: PYENG YANG.

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FIRST SESSION.

FRIDAY MORNING, Sept. 13th, 1907.

*Moderator's Sermon.*—The Opening Session of the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Council of Presbyterian Missions in Korea convened in the Academy Chapel at 8 45 a.m. After devotional exercises conducted by Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Bell preached the Moderator's sermon on Matt. 22:9. As retiring Moderator he then called the meeting to order.

*Minutes.*—The printed minutes being on hand, on motion the reading of last year's minutes was dispensed with.

*Moderator.*—Rev. S. A. Moffett, D.D., being the only nominee for Moderator, the Clerk was instructed to cast the ballot accordingly and Dr. Moffett was escorted to the chair by Mr. Hunt.

*Gavel.*—A gavel, unique in that it was declared to be absolutely devoid of any historical associations whatever, was presented in a happy manner by Mr. Bernheisel, Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, and accepted by the Moderator in a neat speech, expressing his conviction that this gavel would prove a maker of history, in that it would be used in the organization of the first Presbytery in Korea.

*Clerk and Treasurer.*—Mr. Bernheisel's three years' tenure of office having expired, the Clerk was instructed to cast the ballot of the Council for Rev. W. D. Reynolds, who at once entered upon the duties of the combined office.

*Ad interim Appointments.*—The retiring Moderator announced that he had appointed Mr. Pieters to fill the vacancy

caused by Mr. Sidebotham's resignation from the Committee on Translation of Native Church Standards and Rules and By-Laws for Presbytery.

*Arrangements for Council.*—Mr. Bernheisel presented the printed program for this meeting, noting some corrections. The report was adopted, and on motion the Council decided to take recess daily, 10.15-10.30 a.m., and set the time for devotional exercises at 10.30 a.m., and 4.00 p.m.

*Overtures.*—Mr. Smith stated that Kyung Sang Presbyterial Committee wished to present an overture on fixing a term of service for native elders. He was asked to submit the overture in writing to the Committee on Church Government.

*Presbyterial Committees.*—Mr. Harrison presented the report of Chulla Presbyterial Committee and Mr. Robb the report of Hain Kyung Presbyterial Committee. These reports were received and referred to the committees to be appointed by the Moderator to examine the Presbyterial Records.

*Translation of Native Church Standards.*—Mr. Reynolds reported that the proposed Standards and Rules and By-Laws for Presbytery had been translated by the Committee and published in pamphlet form. This report was accepted, a vote of thanks tendered to the Committee and the Committee was continued.

*Native Church Standards.*—Dr. Moffett, as Chairman of this Committee, presented printed sheets containing a "Form of Government." The report was received as a report of progress and the sheets were distributed, without reading, for the careful consideration of the members.

*Recess.*—Recess was taken from 10.40 to 10.55.

*Vacancies Filled.*—The Moderator filled vacancies on various Committees by the following appointments:—

Biological Education .....	Mr. Bell	in place of Mr. Junkin.
" " .....	" Robb	" " " " McRae.
" " .....	" Swallen	" " " " Engel.
Church Government .....	" Robb	" " " " Foote.

Church Government .....	Dr. Currell	in place of Mr. Engel.
Translation of Church Standards.....	Mr. Pieters	" " " " Sidebotham.
" " " " .....	Dr. Gale	" " " " Engel.
Rules and By-laws for Council.....	Mr. Robb	" " " " McRae.
" " " " .....	" Bell	" " " " Engel.
Church Standards .....	" Tate	" " " " Junkin.
" " .....	Dr. Currell	" " " " Engel.
" " .....	Mr. Robb	" " " " Foote.
Rules and By-laws for Presbytery ...	" F. S. Miller	" " " " Dr. Gale.
" " " " " .....	" Robb	" " " " Mr. McRae.
" " " " " .....	" Bell	" " " " Engel.
Missions to Japanese and Chinese in Korea .....	" McCutchen	" " " " Preston.
Anditing .....	" Smith	" " " " Sidebotham.
" .....	" Clark	" " " " McRae.
Missions .....	" Hunt	" " " " Welbon.

*Presbyterial Records.*—The Moderator also announced the following Committees to examine Presbyterial Records:—Seoul, Mr. Cyril Ross; Ham Kyung, Dr. Owen; Chulla, Mr. Robb; Kyung Sang, Mr. Clark; Pyeng An, Dr. Currell.

*Arrangements for Presbytery.*—Mr. Bernheisel presented the program (printed in Kukmun) for the first meeting of Presbytery. The report was received and Committee continued.

*Adjournment.*—Inasmuch as the various Committees had not had opportunity to meet and draw up their reports, it was moved and carried to adjourn, in order that the Committees might get to work.

Various announcements were made and the Moderator called upon Mr. Cyril Ross to close the session with prayer.

S. A. MOFFETT,  
Moderator.

W. D. REYNOLDS,  
Clerk.

SECOND SESSION.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, Sept. 13th, 1907.

The Council met promptly at 2.00 p.m., and after a hymn and prayer proceeded at once to business. The minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.



bring or send detailed report Gale Dictionary ; consider Thursday night." It was moved and carried to defer further action on the report until Thursday night.

*Fiscal Year.*—It was moved and carried that the Council's fiscal year close June 30 ; and that all reports involving financial expenditures be forwarded to the Auditing Committee to be carefully audited before presentation to the Council. The Committee on Rules and By-Laws was instructed to incorporate the above rule.

*Program for Presbytery.*—The Committee on Program for Presbytery called attention to certain changes. The time for meeting was set at 8.45-12.00 a.m., and 2.00-4.00 p.m. The Committee was instructed to arrange for the ordination of the seven graduated candidates to the ministry, Tuesday, Sept. 17, 7.30 p.m., if found possible.

*Proceedings of Presbytery.*—It was moved and carried that the Clerk of Council secure a translation into English of the records of the proceedings of Presbytery, to be published together with the minutes of Council.

*Moderator's Remarks.*—The Moderator, Dr. Moffett, with deep feeling expressed his heartfelt appreciation of the privilege accorded him of presiding at the organization of the first Korean Presbytery.

*Adjournment.*—On motion the Council adjourned to meet Tuesday morning, Sept. 17, at 9 00 o'clock in the Central Church to constitute the Presbytery, and again in business session on Thursday evening, Sept. 19.

Mr. Swallen led the Council in the closing prayer.

S. A. MOFFETT,  
Moderator.

W. D. REYNOLDS,  
Clerk.

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organized. The corrected roll showed 38 foreign and 40 native Presbyters present.

*Moderator's Address.*—The Moderator then delivered an address on the origin, basis and functions of the proposed Presbytery, solemnly invoked the Divine blessing, and with a rap of the gavel formally announced that the Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Korea is now duly constituted and ready for the first order of business,—to wit, the election by the Presbytery of its own officers. The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Presbytery was led in prayer by Elder Han Suk Chin, and took recess until 2.00 p.m.

*Election of Officers.*—Upon reassembling, after brief devotional exercises, the election of officers for the Presbytery resulted as follows:—Moderator—Rev. S. A. Moffett, D.D., Clerks, Elders Han Suk Chin and Song Yin Suh ; Treasurer—Rev. Graham Lee.

From this point on, the records become distinctly minutes of Presbytery, a translation of which will be found appended to the printed minutes, by order of the Council. For convenience the principal transactions of Presbytery are indicated below.

#### TRANSACTIONS OF PRESBYTERY.

1. The adoption of the Confession of Faith and Form of Government proposed by the Council, to be operative for one year.
2. The public examination and solemn ceremony of ordination to the Christian ministry of seven Korean graduates in Theology, viz., Suh Kyung Jo, Han Suk Chin, Song Yin Suh, Yang Chun Paik, Pang Keui Chang, Kil Sun Chu, and Ye Keui Poong.
3. Committees of Presbytery:—Nominating (Kongchun) Committee:—Messrs. Moffett, Gale, Bell, Pang Keui Chang, Chung Keui Chung, Sim Chwe Myung, and Yu Tai Yun. Seven members. Apportion-

## Introduction to the Minutes of Presbytery.

(TRANSLATED.)

Spiritual and great is the excellent Presbytery! The Head of the Church, the Lord Jesus Christ, having selected the apostles and disciples, ordained them to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven in all the world for the salvation of the souls of all men.

Thus commissioned by the Lord Jesus Christ, the apostles and disciples carefully kept the special command of the Lord, given as he ascended to Heaven; and all with one accord assembled in the upper room at Jerusalem and gave themselves to earnest prayer. After they were filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, promised by God, they were able to speak with other tongues and work miracles, and being scattered abroad, preached the Gospel to every nation under Heaven. Those who repented and believed on the Lord, they baptized in the name of the Lord and made disciples. From amongst those believing brethren they chose men and ordained them as elders and pastors to govern the church.

From Antioch of old, Paul and Barnabas and two or three believing brethren went up as delegates to Jerusalem, and being assembled together with the pastors and elders of the original church at Jerusalem discussed and decided upon the regulations which the Church should observe. This truly is the origin of the Presbytery. Hallelujah! We will praise the deep love of our Heavenly Father, the Lord of Hosts; the wide mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church; and the great power of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

Our Korean people knew not God but worshipped spirits and idols; so there was no way of escape from the impending punishment of God. But the merciful God looked with compassion upon our countrymen and moved the hearts of our

Christian brethren and sisters of the American Presbyterian Church, North and South, the Australian Presbyterian Church and the Canadian Presbyterian Church, and caused the General Assemblies of these four churches to select and send out missionaries to this country in 1884. During the twenty-three years that they have been preaching the Gospel, close to 100,000 people have repented and turned to the Lord.

In place after place they have ordained elders and founded churches. The English and American missionaries and the Korean elders from various places met together and discussed the affairs of the church; but not yet having ordained any Korean ministers they were unable to constitute a Presbytery,— and called these meetings the “Presbyterian Council.” During this interval fifteen annual meetings have been held.

By the abounding grace of God, a few years ago, four General Assemblies, to wit, the American Presbyterian Churches, North and South, the Australian, and the Canadian Presbyterian Churches, granted special permission to organize the Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Korea. On Sept. 17th, 1907, the Moderator of the Presbyterian Council, Rev. S. A. Moffett, D.D., made a speech narrating how the authority of these four General Assemblies had been obtained to establish a Presbytery for the Church of Korea. He said, “This Presbytery depending upon the Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, and unshakably established in firm reliance upon the Cross, must become a glorious light before men and a pure and holy Presbytery before God;” and precisely at 12 M., declared the Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Korea duly constituted. Thereafter seven men, graduates of the Theological Seminary of Korea were ordained to the ministry, and the Presbytery was called the “Tai-Han-Kuk Yeisu Kyo Chang-No-Hoi No-Hoi.” (The Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Christ in Korea.) Truly this is the independent Presbytery of Korea! Hallelujah! Praise God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit! To Him be the glory, world without end! Amen.

## MINUTES OF PRESBYTERY.

### FIRST SESSION.

PYENG YANG, Sept. 17th, 1907.

At 9.00 a.m. in the Central Church, the Moderator of last year's Council, Rev. Eugene Bell, preached a sermon on Acts 1:8, our Lord Jesus' last charge, "Ye shall be witnesses unto me." Rev. Dr. Gale then took the bread and having given thanks, distributed it by means of the elders; Rev. Mr. Bell took the juice of the grape, and having given thanks circulated it by means of the elders, thus administering the Communion service.

The Moderator of this year's Presbytery made an address on the nature of the Presbytery and declared, "In accordance with the authority received from the four General Assemblies, (namely, the American Presbyterian Churches, North and South; the English Presbyterian Churches of Canada and Australia,) and acting in behalf of all the missionaries, I hereby inaugurate the Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Korea," and opened the meeting with prayer.

The Clerk of the Council inspected the credentials of the delegates and called the roll. The ministers present were:—

Revs. S. A. Moffett, Graham Lee, W. M. Baird, W. N. Blair, C. F. Bernheisel, G. S. McCune, W. L. Swallen, N. C. Whittenmore, H. E. Blair, Cyril Ross, A. A. Pieters, W. B. Hunt, E. W. Koons, H. C. Whiting, C. A. Clark, W. D. Reynolds, J. S. Gale, C. E. Sharp, E. H. Miller, M. W. Greenfield, W. B. Harrison, L. B. Tate, Eugene Bell, A. G. Welbon, L. O. McCutchen, W. M. Junkin, H. Currell, J. E. Adams, W. E. Smith, E. F. McFarland, A. F. Robb, A. R. Ross, F. S. Miller, C. C. Owen, J. S. Nisbet, H. D. McCallie, E. C. Kagin, S. L. Roberts, 38 in all.

The Elders:—Suh Kyung Jo of Song-Chun, Chang-Yun County; Pang Keui Chang of Chei-Chai, Yong-Kang Co.;

Song Yin Suh of Han-Chun, Cheung-San Co.; Kil Sung Chu of Chang-Tai-Chai, Pyeng-Yang; Han Suk Chin of Chang-Chun; Kim Eung Chu of Tai-Pyung-Tong; Pang Seung Kun of Sin-Heung-Tong; Pak Chun Chan of South Gate Church Pyeng-Yang; Kim Kun Tu of Tuk-Chun-Mu, Yong-Chun Co.; Choi Tuk Yup of Mo-Tong, Pong-San Co.; OO Chong Suh of Chong San, Mun-Hoa Co.; Chang Kwan Sun of Chul-San Magistracy; Chung Keui Chung of I-An-I; Ye Sung Sam of Sun-Chun Magistracy; Choi Sung Tu of Chung-Ju Magistracy; Choi Kwan Heul of Kwan-San Magistracy; Kim Chang Po of Ham-Heung; Sim Chwi Myung of Fusan; Chun Kwang Sil of Pai-Chun; Yu Tai Yun of Won-San; Kang Yu Hoon of Soon-An Magistracy; Kim Pong Han of Tong-O-Ri, Yung-Yu Co.; Kim Chan Sung of An-Ju Magistracy; Cho Pyung Chik of Kyo-Tong, An-Ak Co.; Yun Chun Ka of Poong-Chun, Cha-San Co.; Sin Hwa Soon of Ko-Yang Co.; Song Soon Myung of West Gate Church, Seoul; Ko Chan Ik of Yung-Tong, Seoul; Im Sung Ok of Mokpo; Kim Eung Jin of Mill-Yang; Pang Won Myung of Tong-San, Chang-Yung; Han Chii Soon of Sin-Hwan-Po, Chai-Ryung Co.; Pak Tuk Il of Tai-Ku; Choi Heung Suh of Man-Cha-San, Im-Pi Co.; Choi Choong Chin of Mai-Kei, Tai In Co.; Chuag Myung Yi of Nong-Soo-Kol, Hwang-Ju Co.;—36 in all.

[Ordination to the ministry of two men, not included in the list of delegates, and the enrolment of two more elders on the second day raised the number of native elders to 40. So the correct number of members present is 38 foreigners and 40 natives.—W. D. R.]

The Moderator of the Council called for the election of a Moderator for the Presbytery; but Mr. Bernheisel moved that so much as we are to meet again at 2 p.m. we do now adjourn. Carried. The Moderator of Council then dismissed the meeting with prayer by Mr. Han Suk Chin.

(Signed) YE NOOL SUH (W. D. REYNOLDS),  
Clerk of Council.

## SECOND SESSION.

CENTRAL CHURCH, PYENG YANG,  
2 p. m., Sept. 17th, 1907.

The Moderator of Council, Dr. Moffett, opened the meeting with the reading of Eph. IV, 11-16, and prayer by Mr. Song Yin Suh. Present as before.

The Moderator of Council called for the election of a Moderator of Presbytery. Dr. Gale nominated Rev. S. A. Moffett, D.D.; whereupon Mr. Pang Keui Chang moved that the Clerk cast the ballot for Dr. Moffett. Carried. The Moderator, Dr. Moffett, having taken the chair, Mr. Bernheisel as Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, presented a durable gavel with an engraved silver cross on the front surface, a blue and red "taigeuk" [national emblem] inscribed on the head, and encircled with a brilliant white silver band. He said in brief that the Presbyterian Church in Korea should be established firmly on the Cross and render glory to God; and that this gavel was to be handed down from Moderator to Moderator forever. The Moderator, after receiving the gavel, responded saying, "This gavel is not the property of the Moderator but the gavel of the Presbyterian Church in Korea forever. Let all the members so understand."

Mr. Lee moved that inasmuch as the name "*matchi*" (hammer) is too common, Dr. Gale and Mr. Han Suk Chin be appointed a committee to reform the name. Carried. The Moderator gave permission to elect a clerk, and Mr. Kil Sun Chu moved that three men be nominated and voted for by ballot. Carried. Mr. Bernheisel moved that in view of the onerous nature of the office an assistant clerk be elected. Carried. Messrs. Han Suk Chin, Song Yin Suh, and Kim Kun Tu, having been nominated, balloting resulted in the election of Mr. Han Suk Chin as principal clerk and Mr. Song Yin Suh, assistant clerk.

The Moderator gave permission to elect a treasurer; Mr.

Pang Keui Chang nominated Rev. Graham Lee, and the Presbytery voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Gale said that to-day marks the inauguration of the Presbyterian Church in Korea and moved that the first missionary that came to Korea, Dr. Underwood, be informed by telegram of the formation to-day of the Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Korea. Carried.

Mr. Reynolds reported for the Committee on Program for Presbytery. On motion of Mr. Kil Sun Chu the report was adopted.

Mr. Reynolds reported for the Committee appointed by the Council to prepare a Confession of Faith for the Presbyterian Church in Korea. Mr. Bernheisel moved that this Confession of Faith be adopted for one year only, for careful consideration. Carried.

Dr. Gale reported for the Committee appointed by the Council to prepare a Form of Government for the Presbyterian Church in Korea. Mr. Kil Sun Chu moved that in accordance with the action upon the Confession of Faith, this Form of Government be adopted for one year only. Carried.

The Moderator appointed fourteen ministers as committees to examine the trial sermons and exegeses of the seven graduates of the Theological Seminary, and requested them to report at 7.30 p.m. that day. The seven men are as follows:— Suh Kyung Jo, Pang Keui Chang, Ye Keui Poong, Kil Sun Chu, Song Yin Suh, Yang Chun Paik, and Han Suk Chin.

Permission being given to examine these seven men, Mr. Reynolds questioned them in Theology, Mr. Adams in Church Government, Mr. Junkin in Church History, and Dr. Gale in the Scriptures. Mr. OO Chong Suh then moved that the examinations be suspended. Carried. The Moderator having asked what should be done with the examinations of the seven candidates, Dr. Baird moved that their examinations be sustained, and that after hearing reports on their trial sermons and exegeses we proceed to ordain them to the ministry. Carried.

Mr. Bernheisel moved to adjourn. Carried. The Modera-

May In & May Out, by Mrs. Anabel M. Nisbet, 1919.

1907

Quoting from Mr. Moffett: "This is a great year in the history of the church in Korea. Sept. 17, 1907 just at noon the moderator's gavel announced that Presbytery had been constituted in accordance with the authority given by the General Assemblies of the 4 Pres. churches. N., S., Am & Can. It then had representatives from 36 organized churches & at the night meeting the first Pres. ministers of the Korean church - 7 men - were ordained. One <sup>of these</sup> was set apart as a missionary to Suifparte. "Sixteen years ago he stoned me on the streets of P. Y. and now he goes as the First Missionary of the church in Korea."

A picture in



THE PRESBYTERY OF KOREA

September 17, 1907, is a red letter day in the calendar of Korean Presbyterianism; for precisely at noon on that day, with a rap of the Moderator's gavel, the Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Korea was ushered into existence.

It was highly fitting that this historic event should take place in Pyeng Yang, the ancient capital of the country, and in the great Central Presbyterian Church - the mother of three large city churches and some scores of country churches, herself scarce ten years old! The interior of the building had been tastefully decorated with whole spruce trees here and there, and a dash of coloring added by festoons of the flags of all nations.

By 9 o'clock there were assembled in this church the members of the Council of Presbyterian Missions, the seven Korean graduates from the Theological Seminary, the native elders sent up as delegates from all over the country, and a large congregation of interested Christian spectators. At 9:20 a.m. the Council's Moderator, Rev. S.A. Moffett, D.D., took charge of the meeting and conducted devotional exercises in Korean, as follows:

Hymn - Hallelujah Song.

Prayer - Dr. Moffett

Scripture, Acts 1:1-14; 2:1-24. Elder Suh.

Hymn - Holy Ghost with light divine.

Sermon, Acts 1:8 - Rev. E. Bell, retiring Moderator.

Hymn - Jesus, Lover of my soul.

Communion - Dr. Moffett, assisted by Rev. Messrs. Bell, Gale, Currell, Robb, and Elder Pang; the elements being distributed by

Prayer - Rev. C.D. Morris (M.E.)<sup>eight native elders.</sup> North and Elder Kil.

Hymn - More love to Thee, O Christ.

Benediction - Dr. Currell.

At the conclusion of the above exercises the Moderator resumed the chair and called for the credentials of delegates to the Presbytery now to be organized. Mr. Reynolds, as clerk of Council, received credentials and made up the roll, which was found to consist of 33 foreign and 36 native presbyters.

The Moderator then delivered an address on the origin, basis, and functions of the proposed Presbytery, solemnly invoked the divine blessing, and with a rap of the gavel formally announced that the Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Korea is now duly constituted and ready for the first order of business; to wit the election by the Presbytery of its own officers.

The hour for adjournment having arrived, the Presbytery was led in prayer by Elder Han Suk Chin and took recess till 2 p.m.

Upon reassembling, after brief devotional exercises, the election of officers for the Presbytery resulted as follows: Moderator, Rev. S.A. Moffett, D.D., Clerks, Elders Han Suk Chin and Song Yin Suh; Treasurer, Rev. Graham Lee.

As chairman of the Committee on Arrangements for Presbytery, Mr. Bernheisel presented the Moderator with a handsome artistic gavel, to be handed down from moderator to moderator.

Upon motion of Dr. Gale it was voted to send a cablegram to Dr. Underwood, the first ordained Presbyterian missionary to enter Korea, announcing the organization of this Presbytery.

Mr. Reynolds, in behalf of the Committee on Arrangements, presented a printed programme, which with certain modifications was adopted.

The proposed Confession of Faith and Form of Government prepared by the Council's Committee on the basis of the Standards of the Presbyterian Church of India, were read (in Korean) before the Presbytery successively by Messrs. Reynolds and Gale, adopted as operative for one year, and ordered printed for distribution, in order that the members might make a deliberate and careful study of these standards during the year and be ready to vote intelligently upon them at the next Annual Meeting of Presbytery.

The Moderator appointed fourteen ministers to examine the "parts of trial" (a written sermon and an exegesis) of the seven candidates for the ministry, and report at this evening's session. These seven graduates were then publicly examined before the Presbytery, in Theology by Mr. Reynolds, in Church Government by Mr. Adams, in Church History by Mr. Junkin, and in Biblical Introduction by Dr. Gale.

Upon motion of Dr. Baird, their examinations were sustained and order was taken for their ordination this evening, provided favorable reports are received upon the parts of trial.

After prayer by Elder Oo Chong Suh Presbytery adjourned to meet again at 7:30 p.m. The climax of interest was reached at this evening meeting in the ordination to the Christian ministry as evangelists of seven Korean brethren, all tried and true men - the firstfruits of the Presbyterian Church in Korea. Favorable reports upon the parts of trial having been received, the Moderator announced that the way was now clear to proceed to the ordination of Suh Kyung Jo, Han Suk Chin, Song Yin Suh, Yang Chun Paik, Pang Ki Chang, Kil Sun Chu, and Yi Ki Poong, all of whom had creditably completed a theological course extending over five years, during and before which time they had done valuable service as helpers, elders, and unordained evangelists.

These seven men then rose and solemnly took upon themselves the vows of the Christian ministry, and pledged allegiance to the standards of the Presbyterian Church. This was followed by the ceremony of "laying on of the hands of the Presbytery" (1 Tim. 4:14). The seven candidates knelt down and the members of Presbytery surrounded them, placing each a hand upon the head of one of the candidates, while the Moderator offered a solemn prayer of consecration. Thereafter "the right hand of fellowship" (Gal. 2:9) was given by each member in turn to each newly ordained minister, accompanied with whispered words of loving welcome and earnest exhortation to "take part in this ministry.!"

After this ceremony was over and all had resumed their seats, Revs. J.S. Gale and W.D. Reynolds delivered brief charges to the new ministers.

A very pleasing and appropriate feature of the exercises was the presentation of a handsome leather bound Korean New Testament to each of the seven ministers by Mr. Hugh Miller in behalf of the Bible Societies.

The oldest of the seven men, Rev. Suh Kyung Jo, was called upon to pronounce the benediction. Thus auspiciously closed the first day's session of Presbytery. The following two days with two sessions each were taken up with the details of organization, committee work, and the usual routine of such meetings. One action, however, is worthy of special mention because of

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its far-reaching significance. One of the newly ordained men, Riv. Yi Ki Poong, volunteered to go as a "foreign missionary" of the Presbytery to the Island of Quelpart, some sixty miles off the south coast of Korea. His offer was accepted with enthusiasm, an "Executive Committee of Missions" was elected, and a letter prepared and printed calling upon the native churches throughout the country to contribute a thank offering for the support of this Korean missionary and one or two helpers to go with him.

So, from its very organization, the Presbytery of Korea unfurls its blue banner to the world as a missionary church.

W.D. Reynolds,  
Clerk of Council

### INTRODUCTION TO THE MINUTES OF THE PRESBYTERY OF KOREA

(Composed by Han Suk Chin, clerk of Presbytery, and translated from the Korean by Rev. W.D. Reynolds.)

Spiritual and great is the excellent Presbytery! The Head of the Church, the Lord Jesus Christ, having selected the apostles and disciples, ordained them to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven in all the world for the salvation of the souls of all men.

Thus commissioned by the Lord Jesus, the apostles and disciples carefully kept the special command of the Lord, given as He ascended to heaven, and all with one accord assembled in the upper room at Jerusalem and gave themselves to earnest prayer. After receiving the fulness of the Holy Spirit's power, promised by God, they were able to speak with other tongues and work miracles, and, being scattered abroad, preached the Gospel to every nation under heaven. Those who repented and believed on the Lord they baptized in the name of the Lord and made disciples. From amongst these believing brethren, they chose men and ordained them as elders and pastors to govern the church.

From Antioch of old Paul and Barnabas and a few believing brethren went up as delegates to Jerusalem, and being assembled together with the pastors and elders of the original church at Jerusalem, discussed and decided upon the regulations which the church should observe. This, truly, is the origin of the Presbytery. Hallelujah! We will praise the deep love of our Heavenly Father, the Lord of hosts; the wide mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, ~~and~~ the Head of the Church; and the great power of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter!

Our Korean people knew not God, but worshipped evil spirits and idols, so that there was no way of escape from the impending punishment of God. But a merciful God looked with compassion upon our countrymen and moved the hearts of the Christian brethren and sisters of the American Presbyterian Church, North and South, the Australian Presbyterian Church, and the Canadian Presbyterian Church, and caused the General Assemblies of these four churches to select and send out missionaries to this country. Thus commissioned of God, missionaries came out to this country in 1884; and during the twenty-three years that they have been preaching the Gospel close to 100,000 people have repented and turned to the Lord.

In place after place they have ordained elders and founded churches. The English and American missionaries and the Korean elders from various places met together and discussed the affairs of the church; but not yet having ordained any Korean ministers, they were unable to constitute a Presbytery, and called these meetings the "Presbyterian Council". During this interval fifteen annual meetings have been held.

By the abounding grace of God a few years ago four General Assemblies, to wit: the American Presbyterian Churches, North and South, the Australian

and the Canadian Presbyterian Churches, granted special permission to organize the Presbytery of Korea.

On September 17, 1907, the Moderator of the Presbyterian Council, Rev. S. A. Moffett, D.D., made a speech narrating how the authority of these four General Assemblies had been obtained to establish a Presbytery for the church of Korea. He said "This Presbytery depending upon the Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, and unshakably established in Him; reliance upon the Cross, must become a glorious light before man and a pure and holy Presbytery before God;" and precisely as He declared the Presbytery of Korea duly constituted. Thereafter seven men, graduates of the theological seminary of Korea, were ordained to the ministry, and the Presbytery was called the "T'ai san huk k'ou Kyo ch'ang Ho loi" (The Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of Christ in Korea).

Truly, this is the independent Presbytery of Korea! Hallelujah! Praise God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! To Him be the glory, world without end.  
Amen.

SECOND SESSION.

CENTRAL CHURCH, PYENG YANG,  
2 p. m., Sept. 17th, 1907.

The Moderator of Council, Dr. Moffett, opened the meeting with the reading of Eph. IV, 11-16, and prayer by Mr. Song Yin Suh. Present as before.

The Moderator of Council called for the election of a Moderator of Presbytery. Dr. Gale nominated Rev. S. A. Moffett, D.D.; whereupon Mr. Pang Keui Chang moved that the Clerk cast the ballot for Dr. Moffett. Carried. The Moderator, Dr. Moffett, having taken the chair, Mr. Bernheisel as Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, presented a durable gavel with an engraved silver cross on the front surface, a blue and red "taigeuk" [national emblem] inscribed on the head, and encircled with a brilliant white silver band. He said in brief that the Presbyterian Church in Korea should be established firmly on the Cross and render glory to God; and that this gavel was to be handed down from Moderator to Moderator forever. The Moderator, after receiving the gavel, responded saying, "This gavel is not the property of the Moderator but the gavel of the Presbyterian Church in Korea forever. Let all the members so understand."

Mr. Lee moved that inasmuch as the name "matchi" (hammer) is too common, Dr. Gale and Mr. Han Suk Chin be appointed a committee to reform the name. Carried. The Moderator gave permission to elect a clerk, and Mr. Kil Sun Chu moved that three men be nominated and voted for by ballot. Carried. Mr. Bernheisel moved that in view of the onerous nature of the office an assistant clerk be elected. Carried. Messrs. Han Suk Chin, Song Yin Suh, and Kim Kun Tu, having been nominated, balloting resulted in the election of Mr. Han Suk Chin as principal clerk and Mr. Song Yin Suh, assistant clerk.

The Moderator gave permission to elect a treasurer; Mr.

Pang Keui Chang nominated Rev. Graham Lee, and the Presbytery voted in the affirmative.

Dr. Gale said that to-day marks the inauguration of the Presbyterian Church in Korea and moved that the first missionary that came to Korea, Dr. Underwood, be informed by telegram of the formation to-day of the Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Korea. Carried.

Mr. Reynolds reported for the Committee on Program for Presbytery. On motion of Mr. Kil Sun Chu the report was adopted.

Mr. Reynolds reported for the Committee appointed by the Council to prepare a Confession of Faith for the Presbyterian Church in Korea. Mr. Bernheisel moved that this Confession of Faith be adopted for one year only, for careful consideration. Carried.

Dr. Gale reported for the Committee appointed by the Council to prepare a Form of Government for the Presbyterian Church in Korea. Mr. Kil Sun Chu moved that in accordance with the action upon the Confession of Faith, this Form of Government be adopted for one year only. Carried.

The Moderator appointed fourteen ministers as committees to examine the trial sermons and exegeses of the seven graduates of the Theological Seminary, and requested them to report at 7.30 p.m. that day. The seven men are as follows:— Suh Kyung Jo, Pang Keui Chang, Ye Keui Poong, Kil Sun Chu, Song Yin Suh, Yang Chun Paik, and Han Suk Chin.

Permission being given to examine these seven men, Mr. Reynolds questioned them in Theology, Mr. Adams in Church Government, Mr. Junkin in Church History, and Dr. Gale in the Scriptures. Mr. OO Chong Suh then moved that the examinations be suspended. Carried. The Moderator having asked what should be done with the examinations of the seven candidates, Dr. Baird moved that their examinations be sustained, and that after hearing reports on their trial sermons and exegeses we proceed to ordain them to the ministry. Carried.

Mr. Bernheisel moved to adjourn. Carried. The Modera-

Harry Bowen's story  
(Taegye mis emang).

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THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CHURCH  
1907

The Korean Presbyterian Church was organized September 17, 1907. Dr. S. A. Moffett was moderator, while the vice-moderator, stated clerk, and assistant clerk were Koreans. The new Presbytery was made up of 38 missionaries and 40 elders from the four participating Presbyterian Missions: The Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., The Presbyterian Church U.S., The Australian Presbyterian Church, and The Canadian Presbyterian Church. At this first Presbytery the first Korean minister was ordained.

Council Meeting of September 17, 1907 was the formal organization of the United Presbytery which consisted of members of the Presbyterian missions.

- Bowen -